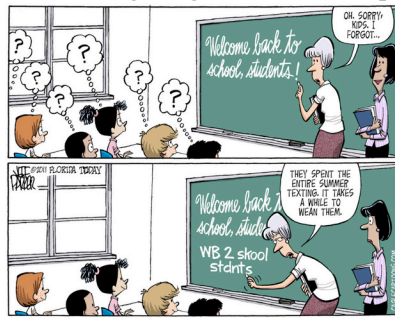


AP Language and Composition



Language Cluster

The expectations for all written assignments accompanying readings is 250-500 words. Your answers should be thoughtful and complete, making specific reference back to the text as appropriate. In addition, create an annotated bibliography entry for each text.

Annotated bibliography:

Base Text Information (you'll need to add specific authors and titles for each essay):

Language Awareness, Essays for College Writers, 7th Edition. Editors: Paul Eschholz, Alfred Rosa, Virginia Clark. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1997.

Follow this citation information up with 2-6 sentences that succinctly summarize the *focus* and *function* of the essay – no need to repeat the author or title. This preserves a record of your interaction with the text – what's important about it – for a later essay assignment.

Put a space between citation info and annotation. Prepare these as we finish each reading, adding each new entry alphabetically by author's last name, and finalize them before turning them in alongside your essay at the end of the unit.

For 9/4 "Writing for an Audience," Linda Flower (46)

Identify the intended audience for your movie review. Choose a different, focused (potentially comical) audience for your review. After taking into account the knowledge, attitudes, and needs of this group, rewrite the review for your new audience. Identify your audience clearly.

For 9/6 "Coming to an Awareness of Language, Malcolm X (11) AND "The Day Language Came into My Life," Helen Keller (16) AND "The Meanings of a Word," Gloria Naylor (237)

Isolate a specific moment in which you remember language (written or oral) being specifically distinctive, instructive, memorable, or life changing. Record the details of that moment, focusing on the small and focused effect language has had in your own life.

For 9/10 "Selection, Slanting, and Charged Language, Birk and Birk (177)

Option One - Selection: Review the paragraphs on Toddy the dog (180-182). Choose a subject known to you and write three different paragraphs – one a balanced representation, one a negatively slanted representation and one a positively slanted representation. Remember, the **slant** in this case depends on the **selection of facts** and not the use of charged language. **OR**

Option Two – Charged Words: Review the paragraphs on Corlyn (183-184). Choose a subject and write two different paragraphs – one negatively slanted, one positively slanted. Remember, the *slant* in this case depends on the use of **charged language**; all of the **facts used need to be the same** in both of your paragraphs.

For 9/12 **“Giving Things Names,” S.I. Hayakawa and Alan R. Hayakawa (108) AND
“Tongue-Tied,” Maxine Hong Kingston (photocopy)**

Write a response hypothesizing how the Hayakawas would respond to Kingston’s understanding of her role as a “Chinese girl” and how Kingston would regard the Hayakawas explanation of the system of classification.

For 9/14 **“Politics and the English Language,” George Orwell (199)**

Orwell wrote this essay in 1946. Using examples from modern usages of language familiar to you, discuss whether or not the outcomes Orwell feared have come to pass.

For 9/18 **“The World of Doublespeak,” William Lutz (187) AND
“Weasel Words,” William Lutz (347)**

No prompt due; expect in-class work

For 9/20 **“Propaganda: How Not to be Bamboozled,” Donna Woolfolk Cross (285)**

Find an example of political propaganda in the print or on-line media (the race for GOP presidential candidates?) that features several of the propaganda techniques highlighted in Cross’s essay. Explain the use of propaganda in the text and its intended purpose.

For 9/24 **Annotated bibliography due. Plan for essay; in-class work period**

For 9/26 **Language essay due**

Essay Topics

Choose one of the statements below or suggest a similarly meaty alternative. Think about the deeper implications of this statement and how it relates to the broad spectrum of our discussions. Write an essay that defends, challenges, or qualifies this statement. Use specific, appropriate evidence from multiple texts as well as your own personal observations to support your position. Your goal is to synthesize multiple sources of information (*including your relevant personal experiences or observations*) for a thoughtful, sophisticated response to the statement.

- Language is the key to identity.
- Our understanding of reality is controlled through language.
- To understand our humanity, we must understand the language that defines that humanity.
- For an idea to exist, we must have words to express it.
- Life and thought shapes language – OR – Language shapes life and thought.
- Language is power.